

Message Text

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60

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION BERLIN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 141129

E.O. 11651: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE, US

SUBJECT: JEWISH CLAIMS AGAINST GDR

1. MR. BENJAMIN FERENCI, WHO IS NOW IN EUROPE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ANNUAL GENEVA MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE ON JEWISH MATERIAL CLAIMS AGAINST GERMANY, PLANS SHORT BERLIN VISIT JULY 1-3. DURING HIS STAY, FERENCI WISHES MAKE EFFORT TO SEE APPROPRIATE GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS JEWISH CLAIMS ISSUE AND DETERMINE IF GDR IS INTERESTED IN DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH CLAIMS CONFERENCE.

2. FERENCI HAS MET IN RECENT MONTHS WITH TWO GDR OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT; BOTH WERE NON-COMMITAL, SUGGESTING THAT MATTER COULD ONLY BE HANDLED IN EAST BERLIN. FERENCI HAS ALSO

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BEEN BRIEFED BY DEPARTMENT ON DECISION TO BEGIN

SUBSTANTIVE US/GDR NEGOTIATIONS IN MID-JULY.

3. US MISSION SHOULD ASSIST FERENCZ IN MAKING APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS IN EAST BERLIN. SUCCESS OF FERENCZ'S MISSION WILL HELP US DETERMINE BEFORE JULY 15 WHETHER GDR IS PREPARED TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH JEWISH CLAIMS CONFERENCE OR WHETHER US GOVERNMENT WILL BE FORCED TO SPEAK ITSELF ON BEHALF OF THIS CATEGORY OF CLAIMANTS.

4. FERENCZ PLANS TO CONTACT MISSION UPON ARRIVAL IN WEST BERLIN AND WILL BE PREPARED TO BRIEF USBER FOLLOWING ANY MEETINGS HE HAS WITH GDR OFFICIALS. RESULTS OF FERENCZ'S VISIT SHOULD BE REPORTED TELEGRAPHICALLY TO DEPARTMENT. SISCO

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